



# Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona

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## About REL West

The Regional Educational Laboratory West (REL West) at WestEd, serving Arizona, California, Nevada, and Utah, is part of a national network of 10 RELs whose mission is to provide research, analytic support, and resources that increase the use of high-quality data and evidence in education decision-making. Most REL West work is carried out in partnership with educators—from state and local decision-makers to district and school support providers and practitioners—through nine research partnerships.

One of the REL West partnerships, the Arizona Partnership for Education and Career Success, was the impetus for this inventory of education and career data in Arizona.

More information about REL West, and the Arizona Partnership for Education and Career Success, can be found on this website:

<https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/west>

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## This Report

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## Introduction

The Arizona Partnership for Education and Career Success (APECS), an alliance of education, government, business, industry, and community organizations, provides support and technical assistance for using data in cross-sector partnerships to improve education and workforce outcomes. Specifically, APECS focuses on increasing the use and sharing of data to encourage greater collaboration among organizations and alignment between existing cross-sector initiatives involved in promoting student success in Arizona. APECS partners include representatives from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), the Arizona Career Leadership Network (AzCLN), and site leaders and staff at three Arizona high schools. The Regional Educational Laboratory West (REL West) at WestEd compiled the *Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona* as a resource to inform REL West's coaching activities with these APECS partners. The Inventory aims to broaden the field's knowledge of the organizations and initiatives that are currently working to promote student success in Arizona, with an emphasis on the data sources they use and the ways in which these sources can be accessed by the public.

### **What You'll Find in This Resource**

The *Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona* catalogues selected Arizona organizations and initiatives that support student education and career success, the service areas in which they operate, and the specific data sources they are using. As the product of ongoing dialogue and information-gathering from APECS partners, the Inventory reflects their needs and priorities, and their input shaped both the content and design of this resource. For example, APECS partners suggested that the *Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona* include both individual organizations as well as coalitions of organizations working together under the umbrella of a common initiative. Using this inclusive definition to determine which entities are inventoried results in a rich collection of organizations and initiatives that share data on the education and career outcomes of Arizonans. The organizations and initiatives are united by their common commitment to disseminate the results of their work, or the source data that they use to accomplish their work, in a manner accessible to the public. That is, the examples of data sharing catalogued here are those which have an explicit public-facing component, rather than more localized data initiatives which may be valuable to the participating parties but do not have results that are disclosed to the public.

By focusing on organizations and initiatives that 1) promote student education and career success, 2) use specific sources of data to do so, and 3) explicitly share that work with the public, the Inventory represents a selected picture of the Arizona data-sharing landscape rather than an exhaustive account of all the data-driven initiatives in the state. The information contained herein is intended to address a broad need for knowledge in the field—i.e., mapping the public data-sharing landscape in Arizona—and respond to the specific requests of APECS partners. The intended audience for this resource consists of APECS partners and individuals affiliated with organizations interested in understanding which data are currently used in Arizona to promote student education and career success, and how to access these data to use in their own work.

This Inventory presents information in several formats, each with its own layer of detail. An At-a-Glance table (Table 1) provides a brief overview of the Arizona organizations and initiatives featured in the

Inventory. Users may wish to refer to the page numbers in Table 1 to find where each entry appears throughout the Inventory. Additional information on each organization and initiative is provided in narrative form in the section titled, “Narrative Profiles of Each Organization’s and Initiative’s Structure and Mission.” The At-a-Glance table (Table 1) is followed by two additional tables describing more detailed information about which data resources are shared by the entities that are covered in this Inventory. One of these tables describes each data collection, database, and tool, including whether it is available for download (Table 2). The next table provides details of the key data elements and other attributes, such as the time frame of the source data, contained in each source (Table 3). Following these tables is a section that provides a narrative profile of each organization and initiative, ordered alphabetically. The Inventory concludes with a methodology section describing the process used to compile the Inventory and the limitations of the information included.

### How to Use This Resource

The information contained in the Inventory is intended to inform conversations around how organizations can collaborate over shared projects, missions, and research agendas, in workshop and other coaching settings. In particular, the *Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona* serves as a companion piece to a complementary resource produced by REL West, *A Compilation of Research on Cross-Sector Education and Career Partnerships*, which documents literature on cross-sector education and career collaboration to support conversations around strengthening Arizona partnerships. Together, the two resources can be used to generate strategies for promoting future data-sharing work, planning outreach efforts to prospective partners, and identifying synergies across organizations that are engaging in or planning to begin similar work.

The *Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona* can be used to address the following questions.

- What organizations and initiatives in Arizona share data with the public to promote student success from the education sector through the workforce?
- What is the primary focus, population(s) served, and service area(s) of each organization and initiative?
- What publicly available data collections, databases, and data tools are compiled or disseminated on organization and initiative websites?
- What are the source data for the shared information?
- What specific data elements are available in each selected source? What measures or outcomes of interest are included in the data?
- What is the time frame covered by the data?
- In what format(s) are the data presented? How are the data shared with the public? Are the data available for download in commonly used formats such as Excel and PDF?
- Where can the public retrieve this information and learn more about the organizations and initiatives described?

The following sections provide answers to these questions and provide general considerations for users of the *Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona*.

## At-a-Glance Summary of Profiled Organizations and Initiatives

In the following At-a-Glance table (Table 1), the organizations and initiatives are presented in alphabetical order, and each entry represents a single data-sharing entity, whether a stand-alone organization or a coalition of organizations formed around an initiative. The table provides an overview of each organization and initiative, along with the following additional information. The “Website” column of the table provides a link to the homepage for the entity. The “Page(s) in This Inventory” column lists all of the pages where the organization or initiative is mentioned in this document. This At-a-Glance table can serve as an introduction to the organizational focus of each of the entities profiled here. By consulting the “Type” and “Topic Area(s)” columns, users can quickly ascertain whether the organization or initiative operates within the topic areas of the user’s interest. More information about each entity is provided in the section titled “Narrative Profiles of Each Organization’s and Initiative’s Structure and Mission” (page 17 of this resource).

**Table 1. Organization/Initiative Name, Type, Topic Area(s), Website, and Page(s) in This Inventory**

	Type	Topic Area(s)	Website	Page(s) in This Inventory
Arizona Board of Regents	State University System Governing Body	Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; Financial Aid	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/">https://www.azregents.edu/</a>	6, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17
Arizona Charter Schools Association	Advocacy Organization	School Performance & Accountability	<a href="https://azcharters.org/">https://azcharters.org/</a>	6, 13, 17
Arizona College Access Network	Advocacy Organization	State Performance	<a href="azcollegeaccess.org/">azcollegeaccess.org/</a>	6, 12, 17
Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education	State Agency	K-12 Achievement; College Readiness; Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; State Performance; Workforce & Career Outcomes; Other/Demographic; Financial Aid	<a href="https://higherred.az.gov/">https://higherred.az.gov/</a>	6, 11, 14, 17
Arizona Community Colleges	Council of Institutional Leaders	Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; Other/Demographic	<a href="http://www.arizonacommunitycolleges.org/outcomes/index.php">http://www.arizonacommunitycolleges.org/outcomes/index.php</a>	6, 10, 15, 17, 18
Arizona Department of Education	State Agency	K-12 Achievement; Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation; Postsecondary Transition; School Performance & Accountability	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/">http://www.azed.gov/</a>	6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 22

	Type	Topic Area(s)	Website	Page(s) in This Inventory
Arizona Mayors Education Roundtable	State Initiative	Other/Demographic; Workforce and Career Outcomes; Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation	<a href="http://azmayors.org/">http://azmayors.org/</a>	7, 11, 18
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools	State Agency	School Performance & Accountability	<a href="https://asbcs.az.gov/">https://asbcs.az.gov/</a>	7, 9, 18, 23
Arizona State Board of Education	State Agency	School Performance & Accountability	<a href="https://azsbe.az.gov/">https://azsbe.az.gov/</a>	7, 14, 18
Arizona State Data Center	State Program	Other/Demographic; Workforce and Career Outcomes	<a href="https://population.az.gov/state-data-center">https://population.az.gov/state-data-center</a>	7, 15, 18, 19
AZTransfer	State Initiative	College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion	<a href="http://www.aztransfer.com/">http://www.aztransfer.com/</a>	7, 10, 19
Center for Student Achievement	Nonprofit	School Performance & Accountability	<a href="http://centerforstudentachievement.org/">http://centerforstudentachievement.org/</a>	7, 9, 15, 19
Center for the Future of Arizona	Nonprofit	State Performance; Other/Demographic	<a href="http://www.arizonafuture.org/who-we-are/partners/">http://www.arizonafuture.org/who-we-are/partners/</a>	7, 11, 12, 19
Cradle to Career: Pima County Partnership for Graduation and Beyond	Nonprofit	K-12 Achievement; College Readiness; Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; Financial Aid; Other/Demographic; Workforce and Career Outcomes	<a href="http://www.c2cpima.org/">http://www.c2cpima.org/</a>	7, 9, 19
Expect More Arizona	Advocacy Organization	State Performance	<a href="https://www.expectmorearizona.org/">https://www.expectmorearizona.org/</a>	7, 11, 20, 22, 23
First Things First	Statewide Initiative	Other/Demographic; Workforce and Career Outcomes	<a href="https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/">https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/</a>	7, 13, 20
Helios Education Foundation	Foundation	K-12 Achievement; College Readiness; Postsecondary Transition; Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion	<a href="http://www.helios.org/">http://www.helios.org/</a>	7, 13, 20
Morrison Institute for Public Policy	Nonprofit	K-12 Achievement; College Readiness; Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; State Performance	<a href="https://morrisoninstitute.asu.edu/">https://morrisoninstitute.asu.edu/</a>	7, 10, 20
Read On Arizona	Statewide Initiative	K-12 Achievement; Other/Demographic	<a href="http://readonarizona.org/">http://readonarizona.org/</a>	7, 14, 20
Thriving Together	Multistate Network	K-12 Achievement; Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation; Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion	<a href="http://www.thrivingtogetheraz.org/">http://www.thrivingtogetheraz.org/</a>	7, 16, 21

	Type	Topic Area(s)	Website	Page(s) in This Inventory
U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid	Federal Agency	Financial Aid	<a href="https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/">https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/</a>	7, 13, 21

**Inventory of Education and Career Data**

Table 2, “Data Collections, Databases, and Tools, and How to Access Them, Sorted by Organization/Initiative” (page 6), lists each specific data collection, database, or tool that is made available to the public by each organization and initiative. The table’s rows are sorted alphabetically by the organization or initiative that shares the information, as in Table 1. However, if a single organization or initiative has multiple data resources that it shares publicly on its website, then the organization or initiative is given multiple rows, one for each data collection, database, or tool. In other words, each separate resource is assigned a separate row. Table 3, “Detailed Table of Data Source Attributes, Sorted by Data Collection, Database, or Tool,” beginning on page 9, describes each of these data collections, databases, and tools in more detail.

**Table 2. Data Collections, Databases, and Tools, and How to Access Them, Sorted by Organization/Initiative**

Organization/Initiative	Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Publicly Accessible Via	Available for Download?
Arizona Board of Regents	Arizona Board of Regents High School Report Card	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/impact-arizona/student-outcomes/arizona-board-regents-high-school-report-card">https://www.azregents.edu/impact-arizona/student-outcomes/arizona-board-regents-high-school-report-card</a>	University-level summaries available in PDF; High school-level reports available in interactive dashboard
Arizona Board of Regents	Metric Dashboards	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/dashboards-tableau#">https://www.azregents.edu/dashboards-tableau#</a>	No
Arizona Board of Regents	Arizona's College Going Rate Report	<a href="http://www.azregents.edu/arizona-college-going-rate-report">http://www.azregents.edu/arizona-college-going-rate-report</a>	PDF only
Arizona Board of Regents	Arizona's College Completion Report	<a href="http://www.azregents.edu/arizona-college-completion-report">http://www.azregents.edu/arizona-college-completion-report</a>	PDF only
Arizona Board of Regents	Wages of Graduates Report	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/sites/default/files/public/2017%20Wages%20of%20Graduates.pdf">https://www.azregents.edu/sites/default/files/public/2017%20Wages%20of%20Graduates.pdf</a>	PDF only
Arizona Board of Regents	Financial Aid Report	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/sites/default/files/public/Financial%20Aid%20Report%20Nov.%202016%20FINAL%20Updated%20April%202017.pdf">https://www.azregents.edu/sites/default/files/public/Financial%20Aid%20Report%20Nov.%202016%20FINAL%20Updated%20April%202017.pdf</a>	PDF only
Arizona Charter Schools Association	Education Evaluator	<a href="http://educationevaluator.org/">http://educationevaluator.org/</a>	No
Arizona College Access Network	AZ Common Measures	<a href="https://collegesuccessarizona.org/az-common-measures/">https://collegesuccessarizona.org/az-common-measures/</a>	External links to data sources
Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education	Minority Student Progress Report	<a href="https://higher.ed.gov/amepac-research-studies-and-reports">https://higher.ed.gov/amepac-research-studies-and-reports</a>	PDF only
Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education	AZ College and Career Guide	<a href="https://higher.ed.gov/college-career-guide">https://higher.ed.gov/college-career-guide</a>	PDF only
Arizona Community Colleges	Strategic Vision Student Progress and Outcomes Report	<a href="http://www.arizonacommunitycolleges.org/outcomes/index.php">http://www.arizonacommunitycolleges.org/outcomes/index.php</a>	PDF only
Arizona Department of Education	Assessment Results	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Yes
Arizona Department of Education	Graduation Rates	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Yes
Arizona Department of Education	Dropout Rates	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Yes
Arizona Department of Education	Enrollment	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Yes
Arizona Department of Education	College-Going Reports	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Yes
Arizona Department of Education	Historical Data	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Yes
Arizona Department of Education	AZ Report Cards	<a href="https://www.azreportcards.org/">https://www.azreportcards.org/</a>	No

Organization/Initiative	Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Publicly Accessible Via	Available for Download?
Arizona Department of Education	Archived School and LEA Report Cards	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/reportcards/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/reportcards/</a>	Yes
Arizona Department of Education	State Report Cards	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/reportcards/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/reportcards/</a>	PDF only
Arizona Mayors Education Roundtable	Arizona Mayors' Education Dashboards: Arizona Dropouts	<a href="http://azmayors.org/resources/reports/">http://azmayors.org/resources/reports/</a>	PDF only
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools	Academic Performance Dashboards	<a href="http://online.asbcs.az.gov/schools/search">http://online.asbcs.az.gov/schools/search</a>	No
Arizona State Board of Education	Preliminary A–F Letter Grades	<a href="https://azsbe.az.gov/f-school-letter-grades">https://azsbe.az.gov/f-school-letter-grades</a>	Yes
Arizona State Data Center	State Demographic Map Viewer	<a href="http://geo.azmag.gov/maps/azdemographics/">http://geo.azmag.gov/maps/azdemographics/</a>	Yes
AZTransfer	Annual Report	<a href="http://www.aztransfer.com/annual_report/">http://www.aztransfer.com/annual_report/</a>	PDF only
Center for Student Achievement	2017 AzMERIT Interactive Dashboard	<a href="http://centerforstudentachievement.org/2017-azmerit-state-ranks-dashboard/">http://centerforstudentachievement.org/2017-azmerit-state-ranks-dashboard/</a>	No
Center for Student Achievement	School Quality Matrix	<a href="http://centerforstudentachievement.org/school-quality-matrix/">http://centerforstudentachievement.org/school-quality-matrix/</a>	Yes
Center for the Future of Arizona	Arizona Progress Meter (cross-indexed with Expect More Arizona)	<a href="http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-progress-meters/education/overview/">http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-progress-meters/education/overview/</a>	No
Center for the Future of Arizona	AZ Snapshots	<a href="http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-snapshot/education/">http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-snapshot/education/</a>	No
Cradle to Career: Pima County Partnership for Graduation and Beyond	2017 Community Impact Report	<a href="http://www.c2cpima.org/data">http://www.c2cpima.org/data</a>	PDF only
Expect More Arizona	Arizona Progress Meter (cross-indexed with Center for the Future of Arizona)	<a href="https://www.expectmorearizona.org/progress/?region=Arizona">https://www.expectmorearizona.org/progress/?region=Arizona</a>	No
First Things First	First Things First Data Center	<a href="http://datacenter.aztf.gov/">http://datacenter.aztf.gov/</a>	No
Helios Education Foundation	Education Briefs	<a href="http://www.helios.org/news-media/publications">http://www.helios.org/news-media/publications</a>	PDF only
Morrison Institute for Public Policy	Arizona Indicators	<a href="http://www.arizonaindicators.org/">http://www.arizonaindicators.org/</a>	Yes
Read On Arizona	MapLit	<a href="http://geo.azmag.gov/maps/readonaz/">http://geo.azmag.gov/maps/readonaz/</a>	No
Thriving Together	Thriving Together Data Center	<a href="http://www.thrivingtogetheraz.org/data-center/">http://www.thrivingtogetheraz.org/data-center/</a>	No
U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid	FAFSA Application Volume Reports	<a href="https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/application-volume">https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/application-volume</a>	Yes

Table 3, “Detailed Table of Data Source Attributes, Sorted by Data Collection, Database, or Tool” (page 9) provides a more detailed breakdown of the data collections, databases, and tools listed in Table 2. In Table 3, the “Primary Data Elements” column provides the measures and outcomes that are tracked in each resource. The “Time Frame Available” column indicates the years covered by the source data. The final two columns indicate the population and/or service area covered by the data, and the topic area(s) associated with the data, respectively. Whereas Table 1 and Table 2 sort the entries alphabetically by the name of the organization or initiative sharing the information, Table 3 is sorted alphabetically by the name of the data collection, database, or tool (with the organization or initiative in parentheses). Each entry in Table 3 contains the link where the resource can be found on the organization or initiative’s website. This is the same link that is referenced in Table 2.

**Table 3. Detailed Table of Data Source Attributes, Sorted by Data Collection, Database, or Tool**

Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Website	Primary Data Elements	Time Frame Available	Population/Service Area	Topic Area(s)
2017 AzMERIT Interactive Dashboard ( <i>Center for Student Achievement</i> )	<a href="http://centerforstudentachievement.org/2017-azmerit-state-ranks-dashboard/">http://centerforstudentachievement.org/2017-azmerit-state-ranks-dashboard/</a>	AzMERIT pass rates (math and ELA), math and ELA state rank, proportion free/reduced-price lunch	2017	All Arizona schools	School Performance & Accountability
2017 Community Impact Report ( <i>Cradle to Career: Pima County Partnership for Graduation and Beyond</i> )	<a href="http://www.c2cpima.org/data">http://www.c2cpima.org/data</a>	Percentage of 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in a high-quality early education program, degrees awarded in early childhood education, percentage of high school students graduating in four and five years, percentage of students attending 90% of school days, percentage of students passing Algebra I by grade 9, percentage of 16- to 24-year-olds not in school and not working, percentage of grade 3 students passing state standards for language arts, white-minority achievement gap on grade 3 AzMERIT ELA, percentage of grade 8 students passing grade 8 math, white-minority achievement gap on grade 8 AzMERIT math, percentage of students who enroll in a postsecondary institution, percentage who obtain a credential, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion, percentage of 20- to 24-year-olds employed	Various through 2016	Pima County and select schools and districts within Pima County, with state of Arizona comparisons	K-12 Achievement; College Readiness; Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; Financial Aid; Other/Demographic; Workforce and Career Outcomes
Academic Performance Dashboards ( <i>Arizona State Board for Charter Schools</i> )	<a href="http://online.asbcs.az.gov/schools/search">http://online.asbcs.az.gov/schools/search</a>	Student growth in math and reading, student proficiency in math and reading, state accountability score, graduation outcomes	2012-2014	Charter schools in Arizona	School Performance & Accountability

Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Website	Primary Data Elements	Time Frame Available	Population/Service Area	Topic Area(s)
Annual Report ( <i>AZTransfer</i> )	<a href="http://www.aztransfer.com/annual_report/">http://www.aztransfer.com/annual_report/</a>	New transfers from Arizona community colleges, university graduation rates, transfer student graduation rates, credit hours transferred at entry, racial/ethnic distribution of transfer students	2004–2016	All Arizona community colleges and districts and Arizona public four-year universities: Arizona State University (ASU), Northern Arizona University (NAU), University of Arizona (UA)	College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion
Archived School and LEA Report Cards ( <i>Arizona Department of Education</i> )	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/reportcards/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/reportcards/</a>	Growth points, composite points, total points, and final letter grade	2010–2014	All schools and districts in Arizona	School Performance & Accountability
Arizona Board of Regents High School Report Card ( <i>Arizona Board of Regents</i> )	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/impact-arizona/student-outcomes/arizona-board-regents-high-school-report-card">https://www.azregents.edu/impact-arizona/student-outcomes/arizona-board-regents-high-school-report-card</a>	Number of students enrolled at ASU or NAU or AU, percentage admitted without academic deficiency, first-term grade point average, fall enrollment continuing to spring, first English course, first math course	2009–2015	School-level data on Arizona high schools' sending patterns to four-year university levels (ASU, NAU, UA)	Postsecondary Transition
Arizona Indicators ( <i>Morrison Institute for Public Policy</i> )	<a href="http://www.arizonaindicators.org/">http://www.arizonaindicators.org/</a>	STEM education measures (student interest, NAEP scores, SAT/ACT, degrees and GPAs awarded in STEM programs), student and school performance measures (AIMS, NAEP, AZ LEARNS, and AYP results), postsecondary readiness measures (math and English preparation and postsecondary enrollment, high school dropout rates, high school graduation rates, GED exits and pass rates, AP participation and passage, SAT/ACT scores and participation rates), postsecondary completion (degrees and certificates awarded in science and engineering, educational attainment of the population, six-year university graduation rates)	Various from 1998–2014	County level and state of Arizona (aggregated); four-year institution level	K–12 Achievement; College Readiness; Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; State Performance

Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Website	Primary Data Elements	Time Frame Available	Population/Service Area	Topic Area(s)
Arizona Mayors' Education Dashboards: Arizona Dropouts ( <i>Arizona Mayors Education Roundtable</i> )	<a href="http://azmayors.org/resources/reports/">http://azmayors.org/resources/reports/</a>	Number and percentage of dropouts and disconnected youth, unemployment rate, household income, lifetime economic loss, educational attainment of the population, high school completion distribution, AIMS reading proficiency	2014	State of Arizona (aggregated) and select metropolitan areas	Other/Demographic; Workforce and Career Outcomes; Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation
Arizona Progress Meter ( <i>Expect More Arizona</i> )	<a href="https://www.expectmorearizona.org/progress/?region=Arizona">https://www.expectmorearizona.org/progress/?region=Arizona</a>	Quality early learning exposure, grade 3 reading performance, grade 8 math performance, high school graduation rate, 16- to 24-year-olds not working or in school, immediate postsecondary enrollment after high school, postsecondary degree or certificate attainment, median teacher pay	2015–2017	County level and state of Arizona (aggregated); links to individual school profiles via Education Evaluator	State Performance
Arizona Progress Meter ( <i>Center for the Future of Arizona</i> )	<a href="http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-progress-meters/education/overview/">http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-progress-meters/education/overview/</a>	Quality early learning exposure, grade 3 reading performance, grade 8 math performance, high school graduation rate, 16- to 24-year-olds not working or in school, immediate postsecondary enrollment after high school, postsecondary degree or certificate attainment, median teacher pay	2015–2017	County level and state of Arizona (aggregated); links to individual school profiles via Education Evaluator	State Performance
Arizona's College Completion Report ( <i>Arizona Board of Regents</i> )	<a href="http://www.azregents.edu/arizona-college-completion-report">http://www.azregents.edu/arizona-college-completion-report</a>	Number of high school graduates, number who graduated from a two-year institution, number who graduated from a four-year institution, four-year institution graduation rate	2015–2016	All high schools in Arizona	Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion
Arizona's College Going Rate Report ( <i>Arizona Board of Regents</i> )	<a href="http://www.azregents.edu/arizona-college-going-rate-report">http://www.azregents.edu/arizona-college-going-rate-report</a>	Number of high school graduates, number enrolled in postsecondary education the following year, college-going rate	2015–2016	All high schools in Arizona	Postsecondary Transition
Assessment Results ( <i>Arizona Department of Education</i> )	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Achievement results (AzMERIT, MSAA, NCSC, AIMS Science, AIMS A), AIMS improvement (year-over-year)	2008–2017	All schools, districts, and counties in Arizona	K–12 Achievement
AZ College and Career Guide ( <i>Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education</i> )	<a href="https://highered.az.gov/college-career-guide">https://highered.az.gov/college-career-guide</a>	Postsecondary institutions in Arizona, accreditation status, majors/programs of study offered at each, degrees offered at each, types of financial aid accepted, published tuition and fees	2016–2017	All postsecondary institutions in Arizona	Other/Demographic; Financial Aid

Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Website	Primary Data Elements	Time Frame Available	Population/ Service Area	Topic Area(s)
AZ Common Measures <i>(Arizona College Access Network)</i>	<a href="https://collegesuccessarizona.org/az-common-measures/">https://collegesuccessarizona.org/az-common-measures/</a>	High school graduation rate, FAFSA completion, ACT benchmark performance, postsecondary enrollment, postsecondary completion, degrees awarded, postsecondary attainment of the adult population	2010–2017	State of Arizona (aggregated)	State Performance
AZ Report Cards <i>(Arizona Department of Education)</i>	<a href="https://www.azreportcards.org/">https://www.azreportcards.org/</a>	A–F letter grade, average attendance rate, percentage of students meeting state proficiency benchmarks on AzMERIT assessments, Title I school status and "Reward" designation, annual measurable objectives met (at the district level only), average percentage of students dropping out of all schools	2014–2015	All schools and districts in Arizona	School Performance & Accountability
AZ Snapshots <i>(Center for the Future of Arizona)</i>	<a href="http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-snapshot/education/">http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-snapshot/education/</a>	Public perception of Arizona education quality and necessity, age distribution of college enrollment	2009, 2013, 2014, 2015	State of Arizona, with U.S. comparisons	Other/Demographic
College-Going Reports <i>(Arizona Department of Education)</i>	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Total high school graduates, number and percentage enrolled in Arizona postsecondary institutions with remedial courses, number and percentage enrolled in any postsecondary institution, number and percentage enrolled in public postsecondary institutions, number and percentage that completed one year of credit within two years of postsecondary enrollment, number and percentage of core academic courses taught in the lowest- and highest-poverty schools by highly qualified teachers, number and percentage of students with disabilities and English language learner students included in state reading/language arts and mathematics assessments	2008–2011	State of Arizona (aggregated)	Postsecondary Transition
Dropout Rates <i>(Arizona Department of Education)</i>	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Dropout rate	2009–2016	All Arizona schools, districts, and counties serving grades 7 through 12	Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation

Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Website	Primary Data Elements	Time Frame Available	Population/Service Area	Topic Area(s)
Education Briefs ( <i>Helios Education Foundation</i> )	<a href="http://www.helios.org/news-media/publications">http://www.helios.org/news-media/publications</a>	Student reading proficiency, ACT performance, college readiness and matriculation rates, and more	Various through 2017	State of Arizona (aggregated) and selected districts and schools	K–12 Achievement; College Readiness; Postsecondary Transition; Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion
Education Evaluator ( <i>Arizona Charter Schools Association</i> )	<a href="http://educationevaluator.org/">http://educationevaluator.org/</a>	Number of students enrolled, grade 3 reading performance, grade 8 math performance, high school graduation rate, college going rate, A–F letter grade	2013–2015	All Arizona schools	School Performance & Accountability
Enrollment ( <i>Arizona Department of Education</i> )	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Point-in-time student enrollment (as of Oct 1)	2010–2017	All schools, districts, and counties in Arizona	Student Enrollment
FAFSA Application Volume Reports ( <i>U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid</i> )	<a href="https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/application-volume">https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/application-volume</a>	FAFSA data by postsecondary school and state of legal residence, FAFSA completion by high school and public school district	Yearly and quarterly from 2006	School-level data from Arizona high schools and postsecondary institutions	Financial Aid
Financial Aid Report ( <i>Arizona Board of Regents</i> )	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/sites/default/files/public/Financial%20Aid%20Report%20Nov.%202016%20FINAL%20Updated%20April%202017.pdf">https://www.azregents.edu/sites/default/files/public/Financial%20Aid%20Report%20Nov.%202016%20FINAL%20Updated%20April%202017.pdf</a>	Sources and types of financial aid awarded, number of students awarded financial aid, cost of attendance and resident net cost, average need and merit award, total need aid awarded, number of students awarded need aid, average percent of need met, average debt at graduation	2016	Undergraduate and graduate enrollees in Arizona four-year universities	Financial Aid
First Things First Data Center ( <i>First Things First</i> )	<a href="http://datacenter.azftf.gov/">http://datacenter.azftf.gov/</a>	Grade 3 AzMERIT math and reading results, educational attainment of the population, high school graduation rates, cost of child care, preschoolers in school	Various from 2011–2016	County level and state of Arizona (aggregated)	Other/Demographic; Workforce and Career Outcomes
Graduation Rates ( <i>Arizona Department of Education</i> )	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Four-year and five-year graduation rates	2008–2016	All high schools, districts, and counties in Arizona	Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation

Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Website	Primary Data Elements	Time Frame Available	Population/Service Area	Topic Area(s)
Historical Data ( <i>Arizona Department of Education</i> )	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/data/</a>	Norm-referenced assessment results, AYP determinations, AZ LEARNS legacy achievement profiles	2002–2014	All schools and districts in Arizona; some county-level data	K–12 Achievement; School Performance & Accountability
MapLit ( <i>Read On Arizona</i> )	<a href="http://geo.azmag.gov/maps/readonaz/">http://geo.azmag.gov/maps/readonaz/</a>	Population demographics, household/family income, educational attainment, linguistic isolation, families in poverty, employment status, AzMERIT composite score, student enrollment	Various from 2011 through 2016	State of Arizona (aggregated); schools within designated regional partnership council areas; all schools within each Arizona county	K–12 Achievement; Other/Demographic
Metric Dashboards ( <i>Arizona Board of Regents</i> )	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/dashboards-tableau#">https://www.azregents.edu/dashboards-tableau#</a>	Freshmen retention, undergraduate enrollment, graduate enrollment, total enrollment, six-year graduation rate, bachelor's degrees awarded, graduate degrees awarded, education and related expenses per degree, Arizona community college transfer student bachelor's degrees awarded, research and development activity, licenses and options executed, invention disclosures received, public service activity, degrees in high-demand fields	2009–2017	Four-year universities in Arizona (ASU, NAU, UA)	College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion
Minority Student Progress Report ( <i>Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education</i> )	<a href="https://highered.az.gov/amepac-research-studies-and-reports">https://highered.az.gov/amepac-research-studies-and-reports</a>	Arizona racial/ethnic distribution, age distribution, educational attainment, income, P–12 enrollments, dropouts, graduation rates, AIMS test scores, Arizona university eligibility, SAT/ACT results, AP placement, dual enrollment participation, postsecondary enrollments, degrees awarded, trends over time	Various through 2016	County level and state of Arizona (aggregated); four-year institution level	K–12 Achievement; College Readiness; Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; State Performance; Workforce & Career Outcomes
Preliminary A–F Letter Grades ( <i>Arizona State Board of Education</i> )	<a href="https://azsbe.az.gov/f-school-letter-grades">https://azsbe.az.gov/f-school-letter-grades</a>	Preliminary letter grade, proficiency points, growth points, ELL points, acceleration/readiness points, graduation rate points, college and career ready points, bonus points, and total points earned	2016–2017	All eligible K–8 and 9–12 schools in Arizona	School Performance & Accountability

Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Website	Primary Data Elements	Time Frame Available	Population/Service Area	Topic Area(s)
School Quality Matrix ( <i>Center for Student Achievement</i> )	<a href="http://centerforstudentachievement.org/school-quality-matrix/">http://centerforstudentachievement.org/school-quality-matrix/</a>	Median student growth percentile, percentage of students passing AIMS, state letter grade, demographic characteristics, per-pupil revenue	2009–2014	All Arizona schools	School Performance & Accountability
State Demographic Map Viewer ( <i>Arizona State Data Center</i> )	<a href="http://geo.azmag.gov/maps/azdemographics/">http://geo.azmag.gov/maps/azdemographics/</a>	Population estimates, age distribution, racial/ethnic distribution, educational attainment distribution, English proficiency, veteran status, households, household income, poverty status, commuting habits, occupational distribution, housing availability, vehicle ownership	2011–2015	State, county, zip code, and other geographic-level data	Other/Demographic; Workforce and Career Outcomes
State Report Cards ( <i>Arizona Department of Education</i> )	<a href="http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/reportcards/">http://www.azed.gov/accountability-research/reportcards/</a>	NAEP results, grade-level assessment and end-of-course results, four-year graduation and attendance rates, reward and focus and priority designations, number of teachers with a postsecondary degree, percentage of core academic courses taught by highly qualified teachers, percentage of teachers with emergency/provisional certification	2002–2016	State of Arizona (by grade level)	State Performance
Strategic Vision Student Progress and Outcomes Report ( <i>Arizona Community Colleges</i> )	<a href="http://www.arizonacommunitycolleges.org/outcomes/index.php">http://www.arizonacommunitycolleges.org/outcomes/index.php</a>	Full-time student equivalent enrollment, enrollment of underserved populations, credit hours earned at alternative times and places, community college and overall college going rates, success after remediation, cost of attendance, course success rates, gateway course completion, completion of credit thresholds, retention rates, degrees-certificates awarded, degree-certificate completion (graduation) rate, Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) completion rate, in-state university transfers and percent with AGEC and/or degree transfer rates, transfer rates, successful outcome achievement, in-state full-time rate of bachelor attainment after transfer, overall rate of bachelor attainment after transfer, industry-recognized credentials, wage growth of occupational completers, percent of adults with some college or an associate degree, percent of adults with a bachelor's or higher degree	Various from 2005 through 2016	Community colleges in Arizona	Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion; Other/Demographic

Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool	Website	Primary Data Elements	Time Frame Available	Population/Service Area	Topic Area(s)
<b>Thriving Together Data Center</b> <i>(Thriving Together)</i>	<a href="http://www.thrivingtogetheraz.org/data-center/">http://www.thrivingtogetheraz.org/data-center/</a>	Grade 3 AzMERIT reading proficiency, grade 8 AzMERIT math proficiency, percentage of students who pass high school freshman-level English and math courses, four-year high school graduation rate, percentage of students who enroll in a postsecondary institution the fall after graduation, percentage who obtain a degree in six years	2014–2017	Selected, within the network: 119 elementary and middle schools, 15 high schools, and 14 college campuses	K–12 Achievement; Persistence, Dropout, & Graduation; Postsecondary Transition; College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion
<b>Wages of Graduates Report</b> <i>(Arizona Board of Regents)</i>	<a href="https://www.azregents.edu/sites/default/files/public/2017%20Wages%20of%20Graduates.pdf">https://www.azregents.edu/sites/default/files/public/2017%20Wages%20of%20Graduates.pdf</a>	Median wages of college graduates, median wages by major/instructional area	2016	Undergraduate and graduate degree recipients from four-year universities in Arizona	College Persistence, Transfer, & Completion

## **Narrative Profiles of Each Organization’s and Initiative’s Structure and Mission**

*Presented in alphabetical order.*

### **Arizona Board of Regents**

The Arizona Board of Regents governs the state’s three public universities and is comprised of 12 board members. They include two Student Regents and, as ex-officio members, the Governor and the Superintendent of Public Instruction ([Arizona Board of Regents, Board Members, 2017](#)). The board provides the state’s higher education system with strategic direction and serves as a key distributor of postsecondary outcomes data for the public ([Arizona Board of Regents 2017 Annual Report](#)). The board’s data efforts include its High School Report Card, Arizona’s College Completion Report, and metric dashboards.

### **Arizona Charter Schools Association**

A nonprofit professional organization, the Arizona Charter Schools Association advocates for policies that support Arizona’s public charter school sector ([Arizona Charter Schools Association, 2018](#)). The association is led by a Board of Directors, assisted by an Advisory Council, Corporate Advisory Council, and staff. It is a membership organization that provides data tools such as the Education Evaluator, in addition to serving as a hub for events, news, and other resources related to charter school academic support, operations support, and school development ([Arizona Charter Schools Association, What We Do, 2018](#)).

### **Arizona College Access Network**

The Arizona College Access Network (AzCAN), a program of College Success Arizona, is a community of college access professionals working to significantly increase postsecondary success in Arizona through data-sharing initiatives, advocacy, and professional development ([AzCAN, 2017](#)). With a membership spanning non-profits, educational segments, and industry, AzCAN’s vision is to improve college attainment rates for students—particularly low-income and first-generation students—thus improving opportunities for individuals, families, and the state ([AzCAN](#) and [Vision and Values, 2017](#)).

### **Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education**

The Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education is the state education agency charged with coordinating and supporting the delivery of higher education in Arizona. As a public agency, its mission focuses on access and success among Arizona postsecondary students and institutions. It largely serves as a resource hub for the public to obtain data on Arizona institutions and the financial aid opportunities available to students ([Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education, 2017](#)).

### **Arizona Community Colleges**

Arizona Community Colleges is convened by the Arizona Community College Presidents’ Council, in partnership with education, business, and community stakeholders ([Arizona Community Colleges, Long Term Strategic Vision, 2013](#)). In 2011, the Arizona Community Colleges articulated a strategic vision

around three distinct goals related to access, retention, and completion. Progress toward each goal is tracked by a set of key indicators, summarized in yearly outcomes reports from 2014 through 2016 ([Arizona Community Colleges, Home, 2018](#)).

### **Arizona Department of Education**

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) is the state elementary and secondary education agency ([Arizona Department of Education, About ADE, 2017](#)). Led by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the agency and its staff oversee the state's K-12 public education system and support 15 county-level agencies, more than 200 school districts and 400 charters, 13 Joint Technological Education Districts, and over 1.1 million students ([Arizona Department of Education, About ADE, 2017](#)). The ADE also makes numerous data tools available to education stakeholders and the public, such as ADE's State Report Cards and College-Going Reports.

### **Arizona Mayors Education Roundtable**

The Arizona Mayors Education Roundtable is state initiative supported by WestEd and the Helios Foundation. It convenes Arizona mayors and district superintendents and their staff around sharing data and practices to enhance student success, and uses a college- and career-readiness framework implemented through a local approach ([WestEd 1995-2013](#)). The Roundtable's data efforts include the Arizona Mayors' Education Dashboards.

### **Arizona State Board for Charter Schools**

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools is the public agency that regulates the approval, performance, and governance of Arizona charter schools. Created by legislation in 1994, it is the largest charter authorizer in the state, in charge of monitoring the performance of over 500 charter schools ([Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, About the Board, 2018](#)). Its mission is to increase the quality of school choice options in Arizona by granting charter status to qualified applicants and ensuring that charter schools adhere to fiscal, contractual, and academic expectations.

### **Arizona State Board of Education**

Created by the state constitution, the Arizona State Board of Education is the public school system's regulatory body ([Arizona State Board of Education, Overview, 2018](#)). Composed of 11 members representing different education segments, the board's mission is to establish policies that promote excellence and equity in public education ([Arizona State Board of Education, Overview, 2018](#)). The board's data tools include Arizona schools' Preliminary A-F Letter Grades.

### **Arizona State Data Center**

The Arizona State Data Center is a partnership between the U.S. Census Bureau, as part of its State Data Center Program, and Arizona. The program's chief aim is to make statistical data from the census accessible to the public and disseminated through state agencies, local and regional governments, libraries, and other educational institutions ([Office of Economic Opportunity, 2018](#)). The Arizona State Data Center is

administered by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity and provides a wealth of population and demographic data for download or viewing in Excel, pdf, and interactive geocoded formats.

### **AZTransfer**

With a vision of accessible college degree pathways for all Arizonians, AZTransfer is a statewide collaboration helping students navigate higher education options and offering resources about the state's public and tribal postsecondary institutions (AZTransfer, [Vision, Mission, and Values](#) and [About](#)). The initiative's data efforts include publicly available annual reports, which highlight progress toward pathway goals and toward making "every credit count" ([AZTransfer, Annual Report](#)).

### **Center for Student Achievement**

The Center for Student Achievement is a nonprofit organization focused on improving schools and educational outcomes for students ([Center for Student Achievement, Who We Are, 2016](#)). The organization believes that all students deserve a quality education, and supports schools willing to improve with research-based advocacy, professional development, and coaching ([Center for Student Achievement, Who We Are, 2016](#)). The Center compiles periodic reports and analyses of achievement and other outcomes and shares its findings with the public, such as through the center's interactive dashboard of AzMERIT pass rates.

### **Center for the Future of Arizona**

The Center for the Future of Arizona is a nonprofit organization working to shape Arizona's future by targeting critical issues, such as education and job creation, that impact the economic prosperity, life quality, and civic health of the state ([Center for the Future of Arizona, 2017](#)). As a "do tank," the Center for the Future of Arizona is committed not only to researching critical state issues but also to making "promising ideas" actionable ([Center for the Future of Arizona, Who We Are, 2017](#)). Data efforts that the organization supports include its AZ Snapshots (<http://www.arizonafuture.org/az-snapshot/>). The center leads Arizona's work as a partner in the national Pathways to Prosperity Network, a multistate initiative that works to improve opportunities for students to transition to and through seamless postsecondary educational pathways aligned with regional industry needs.

### **Cradle to Career: Pima County Partnership for Graduation and Beyond**

Cradle to Career: Pima County Partnership for Graduation and Beyond (C2C Pima) is working to improve Pima County youth education and life outcomes ([United Way of Tucson and Southern California, C2C About Us, 2016](#)). C2C's mission targets preparing every child for school and life success as a means for strengthening the economic vitality of Pima County ([United Way of Tucson and Southern California, C2C About Us, 2016](#)). Part of the StriveTogether Network and supported by the United Way of Tucson and Southern California, C2C uses a collective impact approach that involves a shared vision, evidence-based decisions, collaborative action, and investment and sustainability ([United Way of Tucson and Southern California, Collective Impact, 2016](#)).

## **Expect More Arizona**

Expect More Arizona is a collaboration of statewide partners advocating for student success across the lifespan, from the early years to college and careers ([Expect More Arizona, About, 2017](#)). Expect More Arizona partners and funders come from the business, community, and education sectors ([Expect More Arizona, Partners, 2017](#)). The organization focuses on a series of advocacy priorities related to raising the educational attainment of the state's population and monitors progress towards each of its priorities with the Arizona Progress Meter.

## **First Things First**

First Things First is a statewide initiative devoted to an early childhood system supporting Arizona children's development, health, and education for their first five years ([First Things First, About, 2017](#)). The initiative promotes a system that is "family-centered, comprehensive, and collaborative" ([First Things First, About, 2017](#)). First Things First also provides the public with a Data Center housing data on the initiative's investments, strategies, and demographic information for 28 regions across Arizona ([First Things First, Data Tools, 2017](#)).

## **Helios Education Foundation**

With a history rooted in education, the Helios Foundation invests in creating opportunities for postsecondary access and success for individuals in both Arizona and Florida ([Helios Education Foundation, Who We Are, 2017](#)). The foundation aims to enrich lives with and advances initiatives working towards early education success, college and career readiness, and postsecondary completion ([Helios Education Foundation, What We Do, 2017](#)). The Helios Education Foundation also provides annual reports on initiatives and education briefs.

## **Morrison Institute for Public Policy**

The Morrison Institute for Public Policy at Arizona State University is a community partnership that promotes evidence-based decision-making. The institute offers a free, online data resource and analysis tool at [ArizonaIndicators.org](#) ([Morrison Institute for Public Policy, The Arizona Indicators Project, 2018](#)), which provides data on 11 content areas and includes interactive county, district, and school-level data with its education maps ([Morrison Institute for Public Policy, The Arizona Indicators Project, 2018](#)).

## **Read On Arizona**

A statewide public/private partnership, Read On Arizona is dedicated to providing services aimed at improving language and literacy outcomes for children from birth to 8 years old ([Read On Arizona, About Us, 2017](#)). Comprised of partners from public and private agencies, philanthropy, and the community, Read On Arizona is committed to creating an early literacy system and stresses a community-based approach ([Read On Arizona, About Us, 2017](#)). Read On Arizona also provides the public with an interactive mapping tool called MapLit, which houses data on early literacy outcomes for communities across the state ([Read On Arizona, Data Center, 2017](#)).

## Thriving Together

Part of the StriveTogether Network, Thriving Together is an education initiative working to change the lives of Phoenix-area children and Arizona's future ([Thriving Together, Overview, 2017](#)). With Valley of the Sun United Way as its anchor organization, the partnership involves cross-sector collaboration with stakeholders from education, industry, community-based foundations, and other organizations ([Thriving Together, Partnerships, 2017](#)). The initiative's goal is to ensure "the best chance of success" throughout students' educational trajectories, from cradle to career ([Thriving Together, Overview, 2017](#)).

## U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid manages Title IV student financial assistance programs that provide students with grant, loan, and/or work-study funding ([Federal Student Aid, About Us](#)). The agency's data center provides education stakeholders and the public with multiple data metrics, including information on high schools and school districts' Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion, student aid and loan data, and Title IV reports ([Federal Student Aid, Data Center](#)).

## Methodology

### Process and Limitations

The *Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona* was compiled by the Regional Educational Laboratory West (REL West) with a specific audience in mind: the practitioners, community leaders, and policymakers who comprise the Arizona Partnership for Education and Career Success (APECS). The Inventory's contents reflect a number of methodological decisions intended to build substantive conversations around cross-sector collaboration. From the beginning, the project was intended to include only organizations and initiatives that were explicitly sharing data with the public. Accordingly, the sources examined for inclusion in the Inventory were limited to publicly available and searchable websites from which reliable data on education and career outcomes of Arizonans could be retrieved without special permissions or security clearances. The source material that REL West staff relied on to inform this Inventory varied because each of the profiled organizations' and initiatives' websites organizes and formats its publicly accessible data in different ways. Source materials included content published directly to the organizations' or initiatives' websites; codebooks detailing the data elements contained in associated data sources; downloadable PDF documents and other graphical assets embedded in the sites; interactive dashboards and geocoded graphics from which specific data points and definitions could be retrieved; and other downloadable documentation in the form of Excel files, Word documents, and PowerPoint presentations used to understand the published data sources and elements.

In analyzing the data sources, REL West staff excluded organizations and initiatives from the Inventory if the results of their data-sharing work were not accessible on their websites and/or their source materials could not be found in the public documentation. As a result, REL West staff excluded a number of organizations that purport to work on data-sharing projects related to education and career success in Arizona, or that are known to work on such projects, but whose work was not available to the public in a

retrievable format. For example, if an organization was known to collect data on community college transfer rates but only shared that information with its partnering institutions and did not make the data available to the public, this organization would have been excluded from the Inventory despite being involved in a data-sharing initiative focused on student education and career success.

The information-gathering stage began with a core group of informants from the APECS Alliance membership who provided REL West staff with an initial list of prominent organizations and initiatives that they knew were working on data-sharing activities related to education and career outcomes in Arizona. Then, REL West researchers conducted informal interviews with leaders from these organizations and initiatives in order to gain a better understanding of the data-sharing landscape in Arizona and to generate new leads with which to expand the working list of potential entities to include in the Inventory. After new organizations and initiatives were investigated and documented, the list was culled to include only those entries that met the eligibility criteria. The format in which the resulting organizations and initiatives are presented in the final Inventory was shaped through an iterative process with the primary APECS informants and several secondary informants recruited as part of the informal interview process. The final Inventory reflects the parameters and layout that were determined to be most useful after considering the feedback of all informants, including their perceptions of what would be most informative to the field.

Due to the methodology used to develop the Inventory, this resource should be treated as a relatively limited catalogue of the data-sharing organizations and initiatives that currently exist in Arizona. There are likely to be numerous local data-sharing initiatives which were not eligible for inclusion in this Inventory that provide valuable services to their communities. Also, there may be some organizations or initiatives that would have met the criteria for inclusion but did not come to the attention of REL West staff during the creation of this Inventory. Similarly, there are data-sharing initiatives in Arizona that do not involve the education and career outcomes of Arizonans, which are the explicit focus of this resource and of APECS more broadly, and are therefore excluded. Users of the *Inventory of Education and Career Data in Arizona* are encouraged to consider this resource to be a general framework for exploring the landscape of data-sharing initiatives, and the organizations that sponsor them, throughout the state. It can be used to inform localized conversations with potential partners whose work may not yet be publicly available for consumption but who nevertheless could serve as valuable collaborators in the pursuit of improving student education and career success in Arizona.

## Methodology Q&A

The following questions and answers explain some of the more technical methodological decisions that were made in compiling the Inventory.

### ***How are the terms “organization” and “initiative” used in this resource?***

Many data-sharing initiatives in Arizona involve coalitions of organizations, are sponsored by multiple partnering organizations, or are otherwise unable to be attributed to a single, overarching source. In order to capture all data-sharing efforts in the Inventory, REL West staff included autonomous organizations that collect, maintain, and disseminate original data (such as the Arizona Department of Education) as well as organizations that serve as aggregators or disseminators of data collected by other parties (such as Expect

More Arizona). Of these two types of entities, the latter type often takes the form of a partnership that spans multiple organizations, none of which is the sole managing entity of the data source or its contents. Such an entity typically brands itself as an *initiative*, which may be housed in a particular organization or agency but has a membership that represents multiple organizations. Therefore, each entry included in this Inventory may be either an individual organization or an initiative that stretches across multiple organizations.

### ***What counts as a data collection, database, or tool?***

The classification of the primary data resources shared by each organization/initiative also relies on an inclusive definition of data sharing. In this Inventory, “Name of the Data Collection, Database, or Tool” refers to all of the following: public dashboards displaying data on the performance of schools, districts, or other units of analysis; downloadable data sets, such as Excel files, which are maintained and posted by the organization/initiative for the public to access and manipulate on its own; static webpages and PDFs which cannot be manipulated by individual users but which share data on outcomes of interest in a publicly published format; and user-generated reports which originate from an underlying database hosted on the organization/initiative website, customized and retrieved by individual users who do not have access to the full underlying data. All provide valuable data for the intended audience of this Inventory, and some may be more or less useful depending on the individual user’s needs and intended uses.

### ***What does “education and career data” refer to, and what does it exclude?***

When examining outcomes for inclusion in the Inventory, REL West staff and their APECS partners were primarily interested in student education and career outcomes—whether aggregated at the state level or disaggregated by individual schools and communities. This Inventory’s use of the phrase “education and career data” refers to the many indicators and measures that public agencies and other organizations track in order to understand how students progress through the education system and into the workforce—from elementary and secondary school through the business and industry sectors that employ residents of Arizona.

While accounting for all of the indicators relevant to students’ educational and career trajectories would be beyond the scope of this resource, REL West staff looked broadly at the most frequently reported student education and career outcomes for which there were data in Arizona, grouping the outcomes into categories such as K-12 achievement, postsecondary transition, and career and workforce outcomes. The categories were derived iteratively throughout the research process, and some categories were combined or renamed in order to comport with the patterns observed in the research. These choices reflect the goals and priorities of APECS and do not include many potential outcomes of interest, such as the financial performance of charter schools, even though one of the organizations included in the Inventory (the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools) collects and reports this information to the public. Examples of additional data that were not considered in the compilation of this Inventory include school disciplinary data (i.e., suspensions, expulsions, and absences), faculty salaries at postsecondary institutions, and the health outcomes of children in schools, to name a few.

***What does the “Time Frame Available” descriptor in Table 3 mean?***

The dates listed in the “Time Frame Available” column of Table 3 refer to the years that the source data cover, not the years during which the organization or initiative published or disseminated the data. For this reason, entries in the table can span multiple years, and even irregular intervals of years, because they often cover periods of time rather than specific points in time. Many entries, especially those associated with aggregator organizations or initiatives, include compilations of multiple sources of data whose time frames may not correspond to other sources within the same published resource. For example, consider an interactive map containing two layers of data: one layer with demographic data related to geographic units, and the other layer consisting of achievement data superimposed on schools located within those units. Even if the map or resource as a whole was published in 2017, for example, the Inventory would not list the time frame as 2017; instead, if the data sources that comprise the map or resource cover 2013–2014 for the demographic data and 2014–2015 for the achievement data, then the time frame indicated for this resource would be 2013–2015. That is, the time frame would be inclusive of all ranges covered in the source data, irrespective of when the resource as a whole was published.